Christopher Nichols, Computer Engineer
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Summary/Introduction

I possess demonstrated broad technical expertise with a focus on delivering business solutions. Effective analyst, problem solver and communicator. Self-starter, lead/manage/direct team, independent/autonomous ,requires little/no supervision. Adapts to rapidly changing environments and resolving mission critical issues. Constant R&D research and testing of new technologies in both the computer security, network penetration, virtualization, networking, servers, workstation, wireless, and mobile environments.

Professional Accomplishments

Director of Information Technology – CPS Investment Advisors May 2016 - August 2017 1 year 3 months

- Managed router and network security for an SEC-regulated financial services firm. Performed analysis on security logfiles produced by a WatchGuard next generation firewall.
- Managed a Windows 2012R2 network environment with multiple Hyper-V virtual machines.
- Managed the Office 365 infrastructure including both Exchange Online and SharePoint Online.
- Managed a Microsoft SQL server 2014 environment that supported multiple SQL-based applications.
- Managed backups including offsite backup system.
- Installed, configured, and performed troubleshooting for staff and management desktop hardware and software.
- Created extensive documentation for the IT infrastructure.
- Assisted Management in planning for future IT infrastructure items.

Founder and President of World Ramp Inc. January 1995 – May 2016 20 years 5 months

- Founded in 1995, World Ramp was one of the first Orlando area Internet Service Providers (ISP) providing both Internet services and complete business IT systems integration.
- Provided dial-up, ISDN, and T1 access for over 2500 users, over 5000 email accounts, and over 350 hosted web sites, FTP, Ecommerce and DNS services.
- Leading provider of Internet and networking services to conventions and tradeshows in the Disney area where I designed complex networks using multiple types of media transport.
- Managed multiple employees, including hiring/firing, professional development, and technical training.
- Transitioned Internet services to support companies embracing cloud technologies such as Office 365, ShareFile, Microsoft OneDrive. I have converted over 400 seats from onsite Exchange servers to Office 365 with no downtime. Extensively used PowerShell to administrator the Office 365 environments.
- Implemented SonicWall and WatchGuard next-generation firewalls to provide unprecedented security for companies
- Starting with building our own systems and then transitioning to selling Dell and Lenovo/Systems X systems, we provided best of breed hardware for both servers, workstations, laptops, and tablets.
- Managed over 100 server installs with many of the installations working in a Hyper-V virtualization environment.

Simulation Engineer – Environmental Techtonics Corporation November 1991 – December 1993

- Main responsibilities included integration of the graphics solution for a flight simulator and development of a Heads-Up-Display on a Unix workstation. Performed LAN and Unix administration for the branch.

Other: Sun Microsystems Intern, Sole Proprietor building computers in college to sell to faculty and students

Education

1990 University of Central Florida, Bachelor of Computer Engineering
1987 University of Florida, Associates of Arts
1984 Santa Fe High School, Advanced High School Diploma

Certifications/Organizations/Technical Training

Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) – Initial certification Dec 13, 1993 Windows 3.11 – Current in Windows 10
Florida Engineering Internet (EIT) No. 490ET400, Member of Tau Beta Pi – National Engineering Honor Society
Intel Technology Partner, WatchGuard Registered Partner, Regular attendance at yearly Microsoft Tech-Ed/Ignite conferences.

Demonstrated Expertise Areas

Windows Server (Windows NT - Windows 2016), Virtualization (Hyper-V), Limited VMware, Active Directory, DNS, DHCP, Remote Access, Group Policy Administration, SMTP, POP, IMAP, Dell/ Lenovo/IBM System X hardware including IMM.
Window Desktop (Windows 3.11 through Windows 10) installation/deployment/administration, Microsoft Office deployment/optimization.
Mobiles device – iPhone/iPad (IOS), Android, Windows Mobile 8 and 10, Blackberry.
Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Exchange, 365 Stack, Microsoft Exchange Online, Microsoft SharePoint Online.
Linux, Solaris, SunOS, BSD Firewalls (WatchGuard, SonicWall), Routers (Cisco), Networking, Firewall log analysis, limited penetration testing using Kali Linux.
PowerShell, .Net infrastructure, scripting in multiple environments.
Critical Thinking, R&D, Management, Problem solving.